

NOTICE OF INTENT
08-1198
STATE OF LOUISIANA, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

Diverter Systems and Blowout Preventers (BOP)(LAC 43:XIX.111)

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (R.S. 49:950, et seq) and Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 (R.S. 30:4 et seq), the Louisiana Office of Conservation hereby gives notice of its intent to amend LAC 43:XIX Subpart 1 (Statewide Order No. 29-B) Chapter 1 (General Provisions).

The proposed amendment to LAC 43:XIX.111 (Diverter Systems and Blowout Preventers) includes requirements for diverter systems in areas where drilling hazards are known to exist or anticipated to divert fluids safely away from the facilities and personnel during a blowout event. The District Manager is also given authority to require the use of a diverter system on any well. These diverter systems must meet minimum specifications and have certain characteristics, including the design, type and number of diverter lines, the number and location of control stations, valve types, and anchor and support systems. The amendment also requires the proper design, installation, use, maintenance, and testing of blowout preventers for all wells during drilling, workover, or other appropriate well operations. The required minimum characteristics for blowout preventer systems and associated auxiliary equipment are specified, including preventer types, the number and location of control stations, valve types and pressure ratings. The amendment requires inspections, drills, function tests and pressure tests be conducted at specified intervals to ensure diverter systems and blowout preventer systems are maintained and work properly when needed. Inspection, drill and test records are required to be maintained at the well site for review by the Office of Conservation. Well control safety training is also required for employees to ensure that all required equipment is used correctly.

A public hearing will be held on **TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2008** at 9:00 a.m. in the LaSalle Building, LaBelle Hearing Room, 617 N. Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Interested persons are invited to attend and submit oral comments on the proposed amendments.

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed regulation. Persons commenting should reference "Proposed Amendment of LAC 43:XIX.103". Such comments must be received no later than Monday, August 11, 2008, at 4:30 p.m., and should be sent to Mr. Chris Sandoz, Office of Conservation, Engineering Division, P. O. Box 94275, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9275; hand delivered to 617 North Third Street, 9th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802; by email to chris.sandoz@la.gov; or by fax to (225) 342-2584.

This proposed regulation is available on the Internet at <http://dnr.louisiana.gov/cons/conserv.ssi> and is available for inspection at the following DNR office locations from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.: 617 N. Third Street, Ninth Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802; Brandywine III, Suite 220, 825 Kaliste Saloom Road, Lafayette, LA 70508; State Office Building, Suite 668, 1525 Fairfield Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71101; 122 St. John Street, Room 228, Monroe, LA 71201.

All parties having interest therein shall take notice thereof.

BY ORDER OF:

JAMES H. WELSH
COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

Baton Rouge, LA

07/16/08;07/21/08

IF ACCOMMODATIONS ARE REQUIRED UNDER AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, PLEASE ADVISE THE OFFICE OF CONSERVATION-ENGINEERING DIVISION AT P.O. BOX 94275, BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-9275 IN WRITING WITHIN TEN (10) WORKING DAYS OF THE HEARING DATE.